FORS 4360.---: Texas A&M Forest Service Internship  
2021 Fall Syllabus  
Stephen F. Austin State University

INSTRUCTOR:  John B. Kidd  
OFFICE:  Forestry 204, PH: (936) 468-2014 EMAIL: kiddjb@sfasu.edu  
OFFICE HOURS:  by appointment

Supplemental Texts:  No required texts for this course unless required for the job.

Course Description:  FORS 4360. Texas A&M Forest Service Internship  
3 Credit Hours. Study of forest resource management and education in an operational setting. Specific topics to include timber marking, prescribed fire implementation, trail construction and maintenance, environmental assessments, education of forest and wildlife management practices, coordination of citizen science, and facility and operation maintenance. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

Program Learning Outcomes:  
The course is designed to address the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), as stated in the BSF Program Matrix:

1) Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest ecology and biology,  
2) Demonstrate understanding and competency in the measurement of forest resources,  
3) Demonstrate understanding and competency in managing forest resources,  
4) Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest resource policy, economics, and administration, and  
5) Demonstrate understanding and competency in oral and written communication skills.

The above PLOs are also recognized as vital components by the Society of American Foresters, the program’s accrediting agency.

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<td>FORS 4360</td>
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A – Advanced  – FORS 4360 supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with transitional, high level topic-specific information, activities, and opportunities that enable the students to apply their critical thinking and tactical skills to resolved increasingly challenging strategic situations.
**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Apply all their previous coursework into the formulation, analysis, documentation, and communication of forest management plans. (PLO #1 through 4),
2. Understand professional ethics, including SAF Code of Ethics, & recognition of ethical responsibility to adhere to those ethical standards in forestry decision making on behalf of public and private clients (PLO #4).
3. Communicate management process and recommendations to clients through oral, spatial, and written communication skills (PLO #5).

**Course Requirements:** Students will keep a journal of relevant trainings and activities in which they participate. Included in the journal will be a reflection of hands-on experiences and knowledge gained throughout aspects of the internship. The student will develop and deliver a presentation to ATCOFA students immediately following internship at the discretion of the instructor.

**Grading Policy:** Overall course grade will be determined based on evaluation of the journal assignment and presentations. Letter grades will be assigned on a 10-point scale, after grades have been rounded to the nearest point  

\[
\begin{align*}
&\geq 89.45 = A; \\
&89.44 \text{ to } 79.45 = B; \\
&79.44 \text{ to } 69.45 = C; \\
&69.44 \text{ to } 59.45 = D; \\
&< 59.45 = F.
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**Course Grade Breakdown**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisor Recommendation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Journal</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td><strong>Final Course Grade</strong></td>
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**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is based on the policy and schedule set by the employer.

**Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased
or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at:
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf

**Course Grades Policy (5.5)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy (6.1)**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf

**Safety Policy**

All safety measures dictated by the employer will be followed at all times. Professional behavior is also expected at all times.

**Concealed Carry (13.9):** It is the responsibility of the licensee to know the permanently excluded locations as well as temporary locations.